

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Chairman Martin
We understand the Commission is taking comments about this subject. We sent our views last year & still feel they are appropriate. We urge you to reject their use on airplanes.
A & B Enterprises

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

APR 25 2005

FCC - MAILROOM

Alison G. Coolbrith Barry N. Lastra
Principals

19 Schuyler Lane
Bloomfield, CT. USA 06002-1534

860 242 8861(phone) 860 242 8834 (fax)
a@abenterprises.us (email)

Sincerely
Barry Lastra

The Honorable Christopher Dodd
The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
The Honorable John Larson
Chairman Michael Powell, Federal Communication Commission
Kevin Martin

29 December 2004

18 April, 2005

04-435

ORIGINAL

Dear Gentlemen:

We enclose our business card. We are your constituents. We write to BEG each of you to reject the possibility that cell phone usage will be permitted on airplanes. At the risk of repeating what you have already observed and if like us, suffered at the hands of cell phone abusers, we will give you our reasons.

Air travel is stressful. We log 60,000 to 90,000 miles a year; we believe we have some experience with the stressful nature air travel brings. Service is down and more inexperienced people are flying than ever before. Cell phone usage will be abused as a "time filler" for many. The risks of air rage will increase dramatically.

Cell phone users have proven themselves inconsiderate already. Why validate the discomfort they wreak on fellow travelers? Many of us have work to accomplish. Being surrounded by cell phone users will have negative consequences for the business traveler. It may force us to use alternative approaches to air travel at a time that airlines can ill afford to lose revenue. Similarly, leisure flyers headed for relaxation will not enjoy the flight, and that may have unintended consequences.

To ask the airlines to provide cell phone access, at their expense, says to us that the truly competitive nature of the industry has been fully considered. The impact on stressed income statements could be large.

We enclose an editorial from the Hartford Courant which expresses our views. Thank you

Sincerely,

Alison Coolbrith Barry Lastra

Barry Lastra

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

Ringin' in the Ears

Federal regulators may soon allow cellphone use on airplanes in flight. When it happens, don't be surprised if the stock in earplugs suddenly soars.

The high-pitched trills and irritating electronic snatches of classical music that herald a seatmate's incoming calls will not start immediately. At this point, most cellphones cannot work very well in a metal tube at 35,000 feet. And the experts must figure out whether cellphones are safe in the air and will not interfere with cockpit controls. But those problems will undoubtedly be overcome, especially if the cellphone industry and the airlines decide people should not have to do without their handy mobiles for an entire two or three hours — not to mention the hefty fees they are certain to charge.

There is still time for the downtrodden travelers of the world to arise. Frequent fliers should make themselves heard now before a seatmate's phone starts chirping Beethoven's Ninth.

The airlines should start thinking about what they are going to do with cellphone abusers. People with these gadgets attached to their ears can be deaf to appeals for good manners. Perhaps chronic cellphone users could be seated next to the mewling babies or the lonely insurance salesmen, thereby concentrating the most irritating sounds in one section of the plane. Or cellphone use could be restricted to data transmissions — like retrieving e-mail or going on the Web. At the very least, all phones should be required to stay on vibrate.

ALISON G. COOLBRITH

BARRY N. LASTRA

A & B ENTERPRISES

(860) 242-8861
(860) 242-8834 (FAX)

19 Schuyler Lane
Bloomfield, CT
U.S.A. 06002-1534